

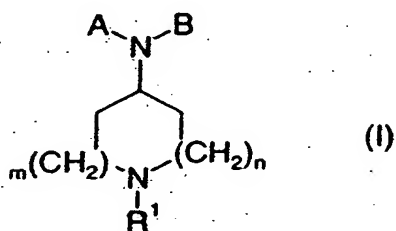
Amendments to the Claims

Please add new claim 101 and amend the remaining claims as set forth below in the List of Claims.

List of Claims

1-24 Cancelled

25. (Previously presented) A compound of the formula (I)



wherein

m is 1;

n is 1;

R¹ is selected from

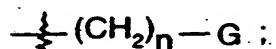
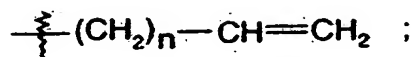
hydrogen;

a branched or straight C₁-C₆ alkyl;

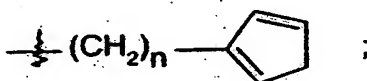
C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl;

C₄-C₈(alkyl-cycloalkyl) wherein alkyl is C₁-C₂ alkyl and cycloalkyl is C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl;

benzyl;



where G is a hydroaromatic or a heteroaromatic group having 5 or 6 atoms, and where the heteroatoms are selected from O, S and N; and

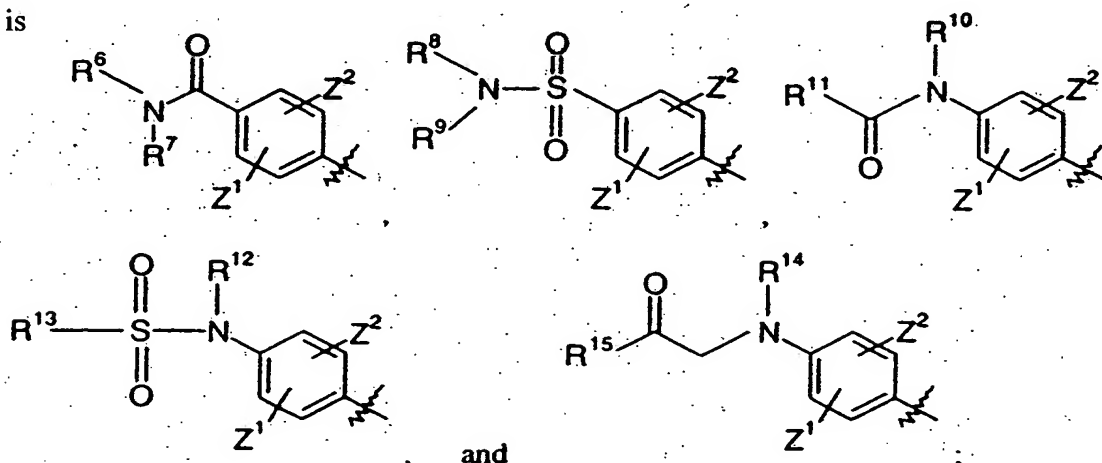


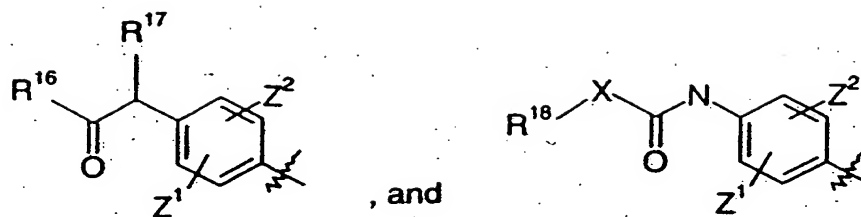
and wherein $n = 0$ or 1 ;

$\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10}$ aryl; or heteroaryl having from 5 to 10 atoms selected from any of C, S, N and O; wherein the aryl and heteroaryl may optionally and independently be substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from any of hydrogen, CH_3 , $(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{CF}_3$, halogen, CONR^5R^4 , COOR^5 , COR^5 , $(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{NR}^5\text{R}^4$, $(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{SOR}^5\text{R}^4$, $(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{SO}_2\text{R}^5$, and $(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^5$, wherein R^4 and R^5 are each independently as defined below and p is 0, 1 or 2;

$(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_2 \text{ alkyl})\text{-(C}_6\text{-C}_{10} \text{ aryl)}$; or $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_2 \text{ alkyl})\text{heteroaryl}$, the heteroaryl moieties having from 5 to 10 atoms selected from any of C, S, N and O, and where the aryl or heteroaryl may optionally and independently be substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from any of hydrogen, CH_3 , CONR^5R^4 , COOR^5 , COR^5 , $(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{NR}^5\text{R}^4$, $(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{SOR}^5\text{R}^4$, $(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{SO}_2\text{R}^5$, $(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^5$, and $(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{OR}^4$, wherein R^4 and R^5 are each independently as defined below and q is 0, 1 or 2;

A is





wherein $R^6, R^7, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{13}, R^{14}, R^{15}, R^{16}, R^{17}$, and R^{18} are each independently as defined below and wherein the phenyl ring of each A substituent may be optionally and independently substituted by 1 or 2 substituents Z^1 and Z^2 which are each and independently selected from hydrogen, CH_3 , $(CH_2)_rCF_3$, halogen, $CONR^2R^3$, CO_2R^2 , COR^2 , $(CH_2)_rNR^2R^3$, $(CH_2)_rCH_3(CH_2)_rSOR^2$, $(CH_2)_rSO_2R^2$ and $(CH_2)_rSO_2NR^2R^3$ wherein R^2 and R^3 are each independently as defined below and wherein r is 0, 1 or 2; X is O, S or NR^{19} where R^{19} is as defined below;

B is a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic, heteroaromatic, hydroaromatic or heterohydroaromatic moiety having from 5 to 10 atoms selected from any of C, S, N an O, optionally and independently substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from hydrogen, CH_3 , $(CH_2)_tCF_3$, halogen, $(CH_2)_tCONR^5R^4$, $(CH_2)_tNR^5R^4$, $(CH_2)_tCOR^5$, $(CH_2)_tCOOR^5$, OR^5 , $(CH_2)_tSOR^5$, $(CH_2)_tSO_2R^5$, and $(CH_2)_tSO_2NR^5R^4$, wherein R^4 and R^5 are each independently as defined below and t is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

wherein $R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{13}, R^{14}, R^{15}, R^{16}, R^{17}, R^{18}$ and R^{19} are selected from:

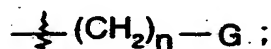
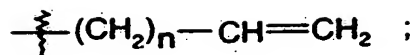
hydrogen;

a branched or straight C_1 - C_6 alkyl;

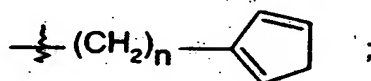
C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl;

C_4 - C_8 (alkyl-cycloalkyl) wherein alkyl is C_1 - C_2 alkyl and cycloalkyl is C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl;

benzyl;



where G is a hydroaromatic or a heteroaromatic group having 5 or 6 atoms, and where the heteroatoms are selected from O, S and N; and



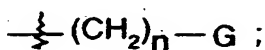
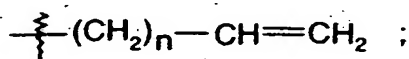
wherein $n = 0$ or 1 ;

$\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10}$ aryl; or heteroaryl having from 5 to 10 atoms selected from any of C, S, N and O; wherein the aryl and heteroaryl may optionally and independently be substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from any of hydrogen, CH_3 , $(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{CF}_3$, and halogen and p is 0, 1 or 2;

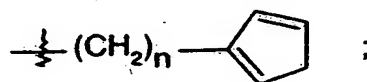
$(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_2 \text{ alkyl})\text{-(C}_6\text{-C}_{10} \text{ aryl)}$; or $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_2 \text{ alkyl})\text{heteroaryl}$, the heteroaryl moieties having from 5 to 10 atoms selected from any of C, S, N and O, and where the aryl or heteroaryl may optionally and independently be substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from any of hydrogen, and CH_3 ;

or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, isomer, hydrate, isoform or prodrug thereof.

26. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 25, wherein:
 R^1 is selected from benzyl;

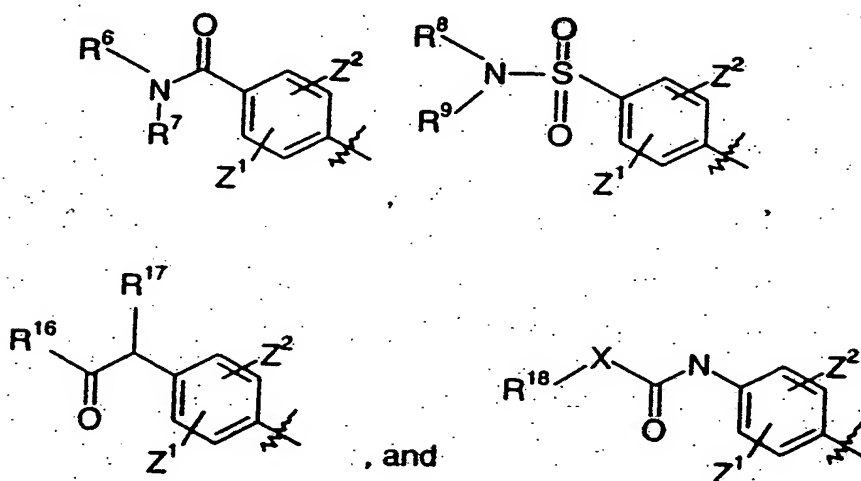


where G is a hydroaromatic or a heteroaromatic group having 5 or 6 atoms, and where the heteroatoms are selected from O, S and N; and



and wherein $n = 0$ or 1 ;

A is selected from any one of



wherein R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , R^{16} , R^{17} and R^{18} are each independently as defined below;

B is selected from phenyl, naphthyl, indolyl, benzofuranyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, benzothiophenyl, pyrrolyl, furanyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexenyl, cyclopentyl, cyclopentenyl, indanyl, indenyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, tetrahydroquinyl, tetrahydroisoquinolinyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, pyrrolidinyl, and indazolinyl, each optionally and independently substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from hydrogen, CH_3 , CF_3 , halogen, $-(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{CONR}^5\text{R}^4$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{NR}^5\text{R}^4$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{COR}^5$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{CO}_2\text{R}^5$, and $-\text{OR}^5$, wherein t is 0 or 1, and wherein R^4 and R^5 are as defined below;

wherein R^4 and $R^5, R^6, R^7, R^8, R^9, R^{16}, R^{17}$ and R^{18} are each independently selected from:

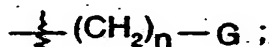
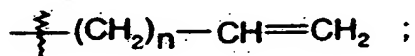
hydrogen;

a branched or straight C_1 - C_6 alkyl;

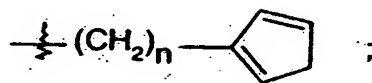
C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl;

C_4 - C_8 (alkyl-cycloalkyl) wherein alkyl is C_1 - C_2 alkyl and cycloalkyl is C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl;

benzyl;



where G is a hydroaromatic or a heteroaromatic group having 5 or 6 atoms, and where the heteroatoms are selected from O, S and N; and

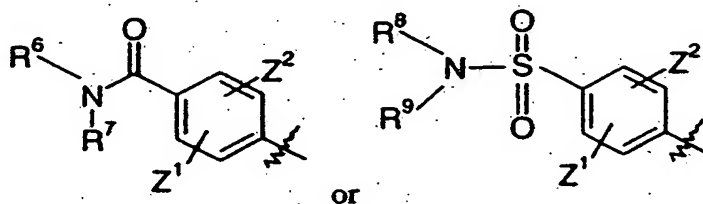


and wherein $n = 0$ or 1 .

27. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 25, wherein

R^1 is (C_1 - C_2 alkyl)phenyl or hydrogen;

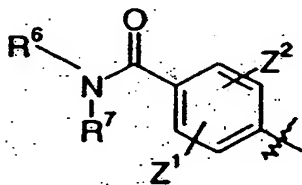
A is



wherein R^6, R^7, R^8, R^9 is each an ethylene group; and Z^1 and Z^2 , are as defined in claim 25;

B is phenyl or naphthalene.

28. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 25, wherein A is:



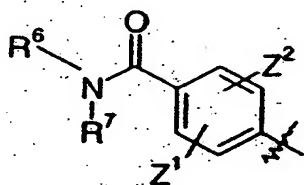
~~and R⁶, R⁷, Z¹ and Z² are as defined in claim 25.~~

29. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 28, wherein Z¹ and Z² are both hydrogen.
30. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 29, wherein R⁶ and R⁷ are each a branched or straight C₁-C₆ alkyl.
31. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 30, wherein R⁶ and R⁷ are each a straight C₁-C₃ alkyl.
32. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 31, wherein R⁶ and R⁷ are each an ethyl.
33. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 25, wherein B is an aromatic optionally and independently substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from hydrogen, CH₃(CH₂)_tCF₃, halogen, (CH₂)_tCONR⁵R⁴, (CH₂)_tNR⁵R⁴, (CH₂)_tCOR⁵, (CH₂)_tCOOR⁵, OR⁵, (CH₂)_tSOR⁵, (CH₂)_tSO₂R⁵, and (CH₂)_tSO₂NR⁵R⁴, wherein R⁴ and R⁵ are each and independently as defined in claim 25 and t is 0, 1, 2 or 3.
34. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 33, wherein B is a phenyl optionally substituted with one or two substituents each and independently selected from

hydrogen, $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{CF}_3$, halogen, $(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{CONR}^5\text{R}^4$, $(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{NR}^5\text{R}^4$, $(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{COR}^5$, $(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{COOR}^5$, OR^5 , $(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{SOR}^5$, $(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{SO}_2\text{R}^5$, and $(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^5\text{R}^4$.

35. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 34, wherein B is unsubstituted.

36. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 35, wherein A is:



and R^6 , R^7 , Z^1 and Z^2 are as defined in claim 25.

37. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 36, wherein Z^1 and Z^2 are both hydrogen.

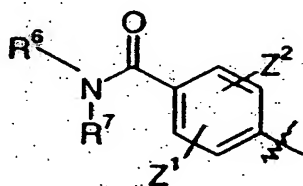
38. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 37, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each a branched or straight $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl.

39. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 38, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each a straight $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_3$ alkyl.

40. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 39, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each an ethyl.

41. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 25, wherein R^1 is a $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_2 \text{ alkyl})\text{-(C}_6\text{-C}_{10} \text{ aryl)}$; optionally substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from any of hydrogen, CH_3 , CONR^5R^4 , COOR^5 , COR^5 , $(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{NR}^5\text{R}^4$, $(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{CH}_3$, $(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{SOR}^5\text{R}^4$, $(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{SO}_2\text{R}^5$, $(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^5$, and $(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{OR}^4$, wherein R^4 and R^5 are each independently as defined in claim 25 and q is 0, 1 or 2.

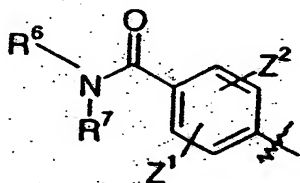
42. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 41, wherein the aryl in said (C₁-C₂ alkyl)-(C₆-C₁₀ aryl) is unsubstituted.
43. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 42, wherein said (C₁-C₂ alkyl)-(C₆-C₁₀ aryl) is a (C₁-C₂ alkyl)-phenyl.
44. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 43, wherein B is an aromatic optionally and independently substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from hydrogen, CH₃(CH₂)_tCF₃, halogen, (CH₂)_tCONR⁵R⁴, (CH₂)_tNR⁵R⁴, (CH₂)_tCOR⁵, (CH₂)_tCOOR⁵, OR⁵, (CH₂)_tSOR⁵, (CH₂)_tSO₂R⁵, and (CH₂)_tSO₂NR⁵R⁴, wherein R⁴ and R⁵ are each and independently as defined in claim 25 and t is 0, 1, 2 or 3.
45. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 44, wherein B is a phenyl optionally substituted with one or two substituents each and independently selected from hydrogen, CH₃(CH₂)_tCF₃, halogen, (CH₂)_tCONR⁵R⁴, (CH₂)_tNR⁵R⁴, (CH₂)_tCOR⁵, (CH₂)_tCOOR⁵, OR⁵, (CH₂)_tSOR⁵, (CH₂)_tSO₂R⁵, and (CH₂)_tSO₂NR⁵R⁴.
46. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 45, wherein B is unsubstituted.
47. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 43, wherein A is:



and R⁶, R⁷, Z¹ and Z² are as defined in claim 25.

48. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 47, wherein Z¹ and Z² are both hydrogen.

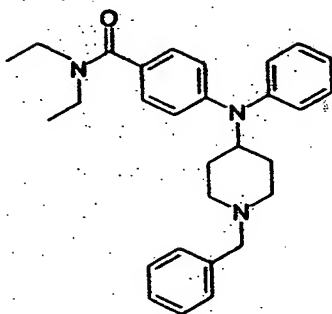
49. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 48, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each a branched or straight C_1 - C_6 alkyl.
50. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 49, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each a straight C_1 - C_3 alkyl.
51. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 50, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each an ethyl.
52. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 46, wherein A is:



~~and R^6 , R^7 , Z^1 and Z^2 are as defined in claim 25.~~

53. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 52, wherein Z^1 and Z^2 are both hydrogen.
54. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 53, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each a branched or straight C_1 - C_6 alkyl.
55. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 54, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each a straight C_1 - C_3 alkyl.
56. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 55, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each an ethyl.

57. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 25 wherein said compound has the structure:

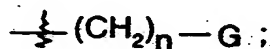
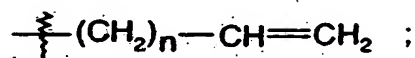


58. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 25, wherein said compound is in the form of a hydrochloride, bitartrate or trifluoroacetate salt.
59. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 25, 32, 35, 40, 43, 46, 51, 56 or 57 as an active ingredient, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
60. (Previously presented) A method of treating a patient for pain, comprising administering a compound according to any one of claims 25, 32, 35, 40, 43, 46, 51, 56 or 57 to said patient at a dosage sufficient to reduce or eliminate said pain.
61. (Previously presented) A method of treating a patient for a gastrointestinal disorder, comprising administering a compound according to any one of claims 25, 32, 35, 40, 43, 46, 51, 56 or 57 to said patient at a dosage sufficient to reduce or eliminate one or more symptoms associated with said gastrointestinal disorder.
62. (Previously presented) A method of treating a patient for a spinal injury, comprising administering a compound according to any one of claims 25, 32, 35, 40, 43, 46, 51, 56 or 57 to said patient at a dosage sufficient to reduce one or more symptoms associated with said spinal injury.

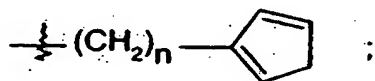
$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{A} - \text{N} - \text{B} \\
 | \\
 \text{---} \text{CH}_2 - \text{CH}_2 - \text{N} - \text{CH}_2 - \text{CH}_2 \text{---} \\
 | \qquad \qquad \qquad | \\
 \text{m}(\text{CH}_2) \qquad \qquad \text{(CH}_2)_n \\
 | \\
 \text{R}'
 \end{array}
 \quad (I)$$

n is 1;

benzyl;



where G is a hydroaromatic or a heteroaromatic group having 5 or 6 atoms, and where the heteroatoms are selected from O, S and N; and

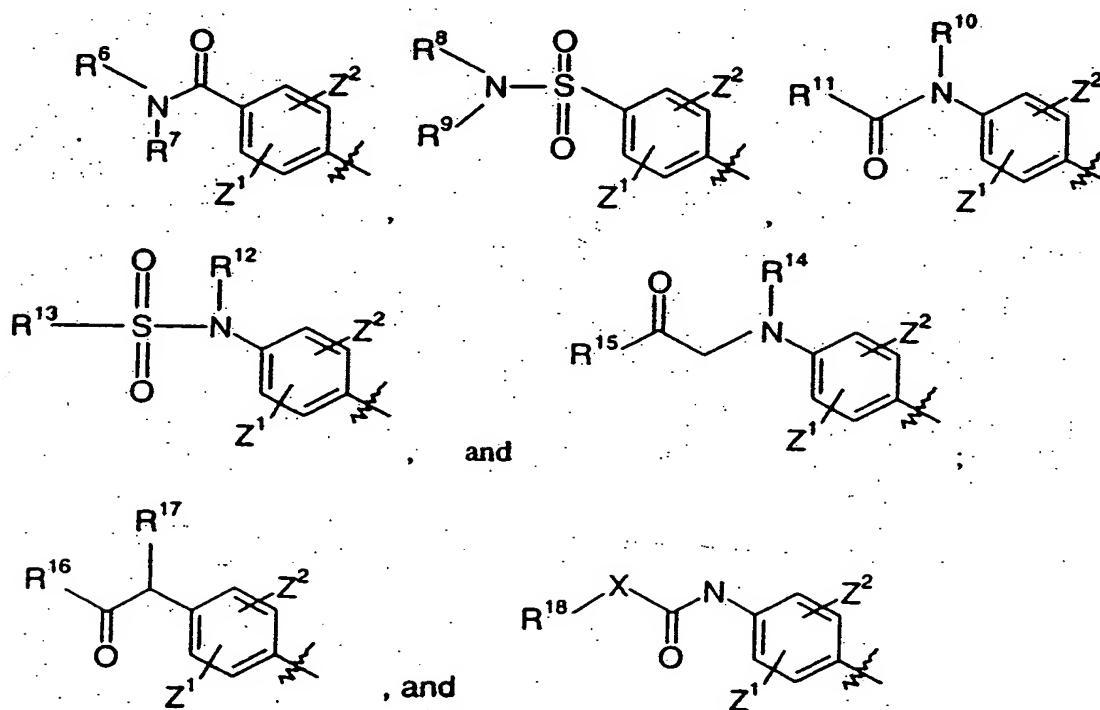


and wherein $n = 0$ or 1 ;

C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or heteroaryl having from 5 to 10 atoms selected from any of C, S, N and O; wherein the aryl and heteroaryl may optionally and independently be substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from any of hydrogen, CH₃, (CH₂)_pCF₃, halogen, CONR⁵R⁴, COOR⁵, COR⁵, (CH₂)_pNR⁵R⁴, (CH₂)_pCH₃(CH₂)_pSOR⁵R⁴, (CH₂)_pSO₂R⁵, and (CH₂)_pSO₂NR⁵, wherein R⁴ and R⁵ are each independently as defined below and p is 0, 1 or 2;

(C₁-C₂ alkyl)-(C₆-C₁₀ aryl); or (C₁-C₂ alkyl)heteroaryl, the heteroaryl moieties having from 5 to 10 atoms selected from any of C, S, N and O, and where the aryl or heteroaryl may optionally and independently be substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from any of hydrogen, CH₃, CONR⁵R⁴, COOR⁵, COR⁵, (CH₂)_qNR⁵R⁴, (CH₂)_qCH₃ (CH₂)_qSOR⁵R⁴, (CH₂)_qSO₂R⁵, (CH₂)_qSO₂NR⁵, and (CH₂)_qOR⁴, wherein R⁴ and R⁵ are each independently as defined below and q is 0, 1 or 2;

A is



wherein $R^6, R^7, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{13}, R^{14}, R^{15}, R^{16}, R^{17}$, and R^{18} are each independently as defined below and wherein the phenyl ring of each A substituent may be optionally and independently substituted by 1 or 2 substituents Z^1 and Z^2 which are each and independently selected from hydrogen, CH_3 , $(CH_2)_rCF_3$, halogen, $CONR^2R^3$, CO_2R^2 , COR^2 , $(CH_2)_rNR^2R^3$, $(CH_2)_rCH_3(CH_2)_rSOR^2$, $(CH_2)_rSO_2R^2$ and $(CH_2)_rSO_2NR^2R^3$ wherein R^2 and R^3 are each independently as defined below and wherein r is 0, 1 or 2; X is O, S or NR^{19} where R^{19} is as defined below;

B is a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic, heteroaromatic, hydroaromatic or heterohydroaromatic moiety having from 5 to 10 atoms selected from any of C, S, N an O, optionally and independently substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from hydrogen, CH_3 , $(CH_2)_tCF_3$, halogen, $(CH_2)_tCONR^5R^4$, $(CH_2)_tNR^5R^4$, $(CH_2)_tCOR^5$, $(CH_2)_tCOOR^5$, OR^5 , $(CH_2)_tSOR^5$, $(CH_2)_tSO_2R^5$, and $(CH_2)_tSO_2NR^5R^4$, wherein R^4 and R^5 are each independently as defined below and t is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

wherein $R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{13}, R^{14}, R^{15}, R^{16}, R^{17}, R^{18}$ and R^{19} are selected from

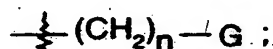
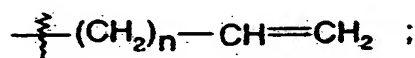
hydrogen;

a branched or straight C_1 - C_6 alkyl;

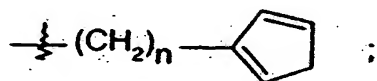
C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl;

C_4 - C_8 (alkyl-cycloalkyl) wherein alkyl is C_1 - C_2 alkyl and cycloalkyl is C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl;

benzyl;



where G is a hydroaromatic or a heteroaromatic group having 5 or 6 atoms, and where the heteroatoms are selected from O, S and N; and



and wherein $n = 0$ or 1 ;

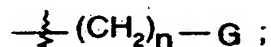
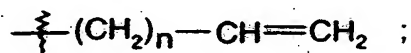
C_6 - C_{10} aryl; or heteroaryl having from 5 to 10 atoms selected from any of C, S, N and O; wherein the aryl and heteroaryl may optionally and independently be substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from any of hydrogen, CH_3 , $(CH_2)_pCF_3$, and halogen and p is 0, 1 or 2;

$(C_1$ - C_2 alkyl)-(C_6 - C_{10} aryl); or $(C_1$ - C_2 alkyl)heteroaryl, the heteroaryl moieties having from 5 to 10 atoms selected from any of C, S, N and O, and where the aryl or heteroaryl may optionally and independently be substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from any of hydrogen, and CH_3 ;

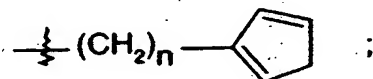
or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, isomer, hydrate, isoform or prodrug thereof.

64. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 63, wherein

R^1 is selected from benzyl;

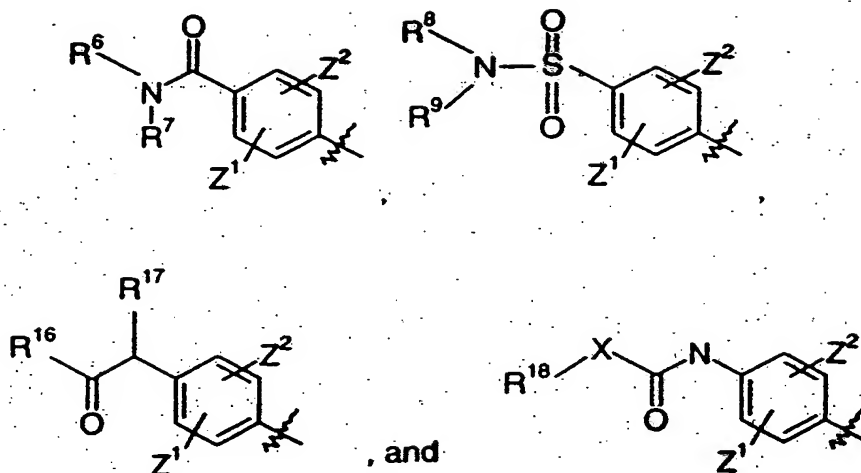


where G is a hydroaromatic or a heteroaromatic group having 5 or 6 atoms, and where the heteroatoms are selected from O, S and N; and



and wherein $n = 0$ or 1 ;

A is selected from any one of



wherein R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , R^{16} , R^{17} and R^{18} are each independently as defined below;

B is selected from phenyl, naphthyl, indolyl, benzofuranyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, benzothiophenyl, pyrrolyl, furanyl, quinoliny, isoquinoliny, cyclohexyl, cyclohexenyl, cyclopentyl, cyclopentenyl, indanyl, indenyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, tetrahydroquinyl, tetrahydroisoquinoliny, tetrahydrofuranyl, pyrrolidinyl, and indazoliny, each optionally and independently substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from hydrogen, CH_3 , CF_3 , halogen, $-(CH_2)_tCONR^5R^4$, $-(CH_2)_tNR^5R^4$, $-(CH_2)_tCOR^5$, $-(CH_2)_tCO_2R^5$, and $-OR^5$,

wherein t is 0 or 1, and wherein R^4 and R^5 are as defined below;

wherein R^4 and R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , R^{16} , R^{17} and R^{18} are each independently selected from:

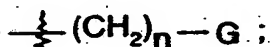
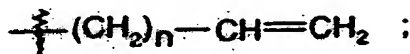
hydrogen;

a branched or straight C_1 - C_6 alkyl;

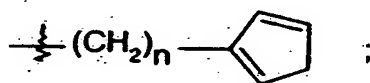
C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl;

C₄-C₈(alkyl-cycloalkyl) wherein alkyl is C₁-C₂ alkyl and cycloalkyl is C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl;

benzyl;



where G is a hydroaromatic or a heteroaromatic group having 5 or 6 atoms, and where the heteroatoms are selected from O, S and N; and

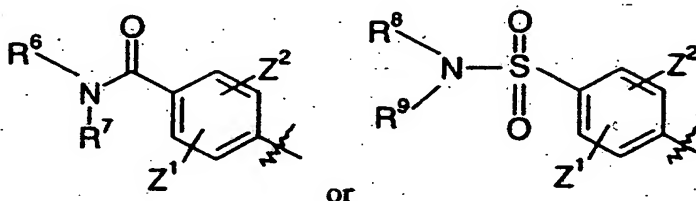


and wherein n = 0 or 1.

65. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 63, wherein

R¹ is (C₁-C₂ alkyl)phenyl or hydrogen;

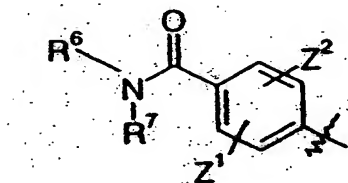
A is



wherein R⁶, R⁷, R⁸, R⁹, is each an ethylene group; and Z¹ and Z², are as defined in claim 25;

and B is phenyl or naphthalene.

66. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 63, wherein A is:



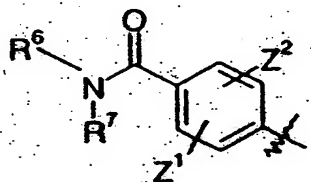
and R^6 , R^7 , Z^1 and Z^2 are as defined in claim 25.

67. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 66, wherein Z^1 and Z^2 are both hydrogen.
68. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 67, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each a branched or straight C_1 - C_6 alkyl.
69. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 68, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each a straight C_1 - C_3 alkyl.
70. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 69, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each an ethyl.
71. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 63, wherein B is an aromatic optionally and independently substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from hydrogen, $CH_3(CH_2)_tCF_3$, halogen, $(CH_2)_tCONR^5R^4$, $(CH_2)_tNR^5R^4$, $(CH_2)_tCOR^5$, $(CH_2)_tCOOR^5$, OR^5 , $(CH_2)_tSOR^5$, $(CH_2)_tSO_2R^5$, and $(CH_2)_tSO_2NR^5R^4$, wherein R^4 and R^5 are each and independently as defined in claim 25 and t is 0, 1, 2 or 3.
72. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 71, wherein B is a phenyl optionally substituted with one or two substituents each and independently selected from

hydrogen, $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{CF}_3$, halogen, $(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{CONR}^5\text{R}^4$, $(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{NR}^5\text{R}^4$, $(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{COR}^5$, $(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{COOR}^5$, OR^5 , $(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{SOR}^5$, $(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{SO}_2\text{R}^5$, and $(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^5\text{R}^4$.

73. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 72, wherein B is unsubstituted.

74. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 73, wherein A is:



and R^6 , R^7 , Z^1 and Z^2 are as defined in claim 63.

75. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 74, wherein Z^1 and Z^2 are both hydrogen.

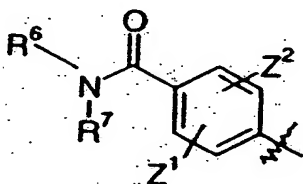
76. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 75, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each a branched or straight $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl.

77. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 76, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each a straight $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_3$ alkyl.

78. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 77, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each an ethyl.

79. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 63, wherein R^1 is a $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_2 \text{ alkyl})\text{-(C}_6\text{-C}_{10} \text{ aryl)}$; optionally substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from any of hydrogen, CH_3 , CONR^5R^4 , COOR^5 , COR^5 , $(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{NR}^5\text{R}^4$, $(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{CH}_3$, $(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{SOR}^5\text{R}^4$, $(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{SO}_2\text{R}^5$, $(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^5$, and $(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{OR}^4$, ~~wherein R^4 and R^5 are each independently as defined in claim 25 and q is 0, 1 or 2.~~

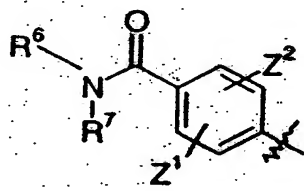
80. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 79, wherein the aryl in said (C₁-C₂ alkyl)-(C₆-C₁₀ aryl) is unsubstituted.
81. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 80, wherein said (C₁-C₂ alkyl)-(C₆-C₁₀ aryl) is a (C₁-C₂ alkyl)-phenyl.
82. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 81, wherein B is an aromatic optionally and independently substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from hydrogen, CH₃(CH₂)_tCF₃, halogen, (CH₂)_tCONR⁵R⁴, (CH₂)_tNR⁵R⁴, (CH₂)_tCOR⁵, (CH₂)_tCOOR⁵, OR⁵, (CH₂)_tSOR⁵, (CH₂)_tSO₂R⁵, and (CH₂)_tSO₂NR⁵R⁴, ~~wherein R⁴ and R⁵ are each and independently as defined in claim 25 and t is 0, 1, 2 or 3.~~
83. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 82, wherein B is a phenyl optionally substituted with one or two substituents each and independently selected from hydrogen, CH₃(CH₂)_tCF₃, halogen, (CH₂)_tCONR⁵R⁴, (CH₂)_tNR⁵R⁴, (CH₂)_tCOR⁵, (CH₂)_tCOOR⁵, OR⁵, (CH₂)_tSOR⁵, (CH₂)_tSO₂R⁵, and (CH₂)_tSO₂NR⁵R⁴.
84. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 83, wherein B is unsubstituted.
85. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 81, wherein A is:



and R⁶, R⁷, Z¹ and Z² are as defined in claim 25.

86. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 85 wherein Z¹ and Z² are both hydrogen.

87. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 86, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each a branched or straight C_1 - C_6 alkyl.
88. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 87, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each a straight C_1 - C_3 alkyl.
89. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 88, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each an ethyl.
90. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 84, wherein A is:

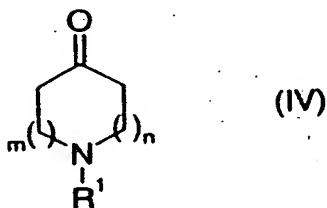


and R^6 , R^7 , Z^1 and Z^2 are as defined in claim 25.

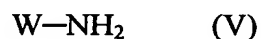
91. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 90, wherein Z^1 and Z^2 are both hydrogen.
92. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 91, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each a branched or straight C_1 - C_6 alkyl.
93. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 92, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each a straight C_1 - C_3 alkyl.
94. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 93, wherein R^6 and R^7 are each an ethyl.

95. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 63, wherein said compound is in the form of a hydrochloride, bitartrate or trifluoroacetate salt.
96. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 63, 70, 73, 78, 81, 84, 89, or 94 an active ingredient, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
97. (Previously presented) A method of treating a patient for pain, comprising administering a compound according to any one of claims 63, 70, 73, 78, 81, 84, 89, or 94 to said patient at a dosage sufficient to reduce or eliminate said pain.
98. (Previously presented) A method of treating a patient for a gastrointestinal disorder, comprising administering a compound according to any one of claims 63, 70, 73, 78, 81, 84, 89, or 94 to said patient at a dosage sufficient to reduce or eliminate one or more symptoms associated with said gastrointestinal disorder.
99. (Previously presented) A method of treating a patient for a spinal injury, comprising administering a compound according to any one of claims 63, 70, 73, 78, 81, 84, 89, or 94 to said patient at a dosage sufficient to reduce one or more symptoms associated with said spinal injury.
100. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of a compound according to either claim 25 or 63 comprising:

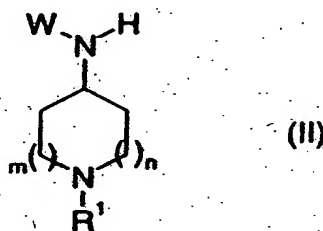
- (a) subjecting a ketone of the formula (IV)



wherein R^1 is as defined in claim 25, $m = 0 \text{ or } 1$, and $n=1$,
to reductive amination with a substituted arylamine of the formula (V)

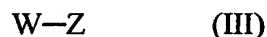


wherein W is either A or B as defined in claim 25, and wherein said reductive amination is optionally performed in the presence of a solvent,
to give a compound of formula (II)



wherein R^1 is as defined in claim 25, $m = 0 \text{ or } 1$, and $n=1$, and W is either A or B as defined in claim 25~~[[.]]~~; and

- ~~(b) optionally modifying R^1 and W in formula (II) after or during the preparation of (II) from (IV) and (V);~~
- (eb) reacting the compound of formula (II) produced in step (a) with an arylating agent of the formula (III)

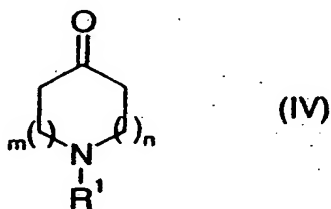


wherein W is either A or B as defined in claim 25, and Z is either Z^1 or Z^2 as defined in claim 25, optionally in the presence of a catalyst to give a compound of ~~either claim 25 or claim 63; and~~ [[.]]

- ~~(d) optionally further modifying R^1 , and the substituents on A and B.~~

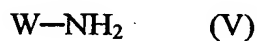
101. (New) A process for the preparation of a compound according to claim 63 comprising:

- (a) subjecting a ketone of the formula (IV)



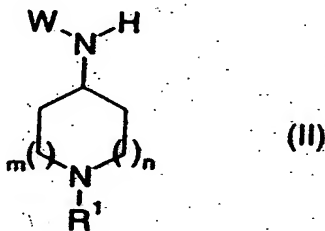
wherein R¹ is as defined in claim 63, m = 0, and n = 1,

to reductive amination with a substituted arylamine of the formula (V)



wherein W is either A or B as defined in claim 63, and wherein said reductive amination is optionally performed in the presence of a solvent,

to give a compound of formula (II)



wherein R¹ is as defined in claim 63 m = 0, and n=1, and W is either A or B as defined in claim 63; and

- (b) reacting the compound of formula (II) produced in step (a) with an arylating agent of the formula (III)



wherein W is either A or B as defined in claim 63, and Z is either Z^1 or Z^2 as defined in claim 63, optionally in the presence of a catalyst to give a compound of either claim 63.